THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) According to the reports received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the Earthquake of magnitude 6.00 in the richter scale which hit Jabalpur and surrounding areas claimed 39 human lives, injured 397 persons and damaged about 1.65 lakh houses.

(c) and (d) Government of India have already released to the State Government its entire share of State Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 1997-98 amounting to Rs. 40.42 crores, including advance release of Rs. 20.21 crores representing the 3rd and 4th quarterly instalments, in the wake of the earthquake. A memorandum was received from the State Government seeking additional assistance of Rs. 230.77 crores from National Fund for Calamity Relief for relief and rehabilitation measures. Based on the report of a Central Team which visited the affected areas, the National Calamity Relief Committee approved an additional assistance of Rs. 45.26 crores from the National Fund for Calamity Relief, which has been released on 26th June, 1997.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The Dams are designed taking into consideration the relevant Seismicity of the area which is also reviewed from time to time by a National Committee for Seismic Design Parameters.

[Translation]

Production of Milk in National Dairy Farms

*99. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of milk in the entire country and in the dairy farms of the National Dairy Research Institute during 1979-1995;

(b) whether the production of milk rapidly increased in the country during 1979-95 whereas the National Dairy Research Institute entrusted with the work of increasing milk production in the country showed a decline in the milk production by its dairy farms;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the scheme formulated to increase the production of milk, so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The annual production of milk in the country and in the National Dairy Research Institute during 1979-95 is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) Yes Sir. The production of milk in the country has increased from 30.40 million tonnes in 1979-80 to 64.0 million tonnes in 1994-95. In case of the National Dairy Research Institute although the total milk production showed a decline during 1979-1995, the decline is commensurate with the reduction in number of animals in milk. However, the average yield per animal in milk per day has increased from 9.0 kg. in 1979 to 9.6 kg. in 1995.

(c) and (d) The NDRI is primarily an experimental farm, and is not operated as a commercial milk production unit. Besides State Govts. programmes and research work for improvement of cross-bred cattle at N.D.R.I., the following Central/Centrally sponsored schemes are being implemented by the Govt. of India to increase the production of milk:

(i) Extension of Frozen Semen Technology and Progeny Testing Programme.

(ii) National Bull Production Programme.

(iii) Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development.

(iv) Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases.

(v) National Project on Rinderpest Eradication.

(vi) Professional Efficiency Develcpment.

(vii) Integrated Dairy Development Programmme for Non-Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas.

(viii) Technology Mission on Dairy Development.

Statement

Total Milk Production in Country		Milk Production at National Dairy Research Institute	
Year	Production (Million Tonnes)	Year	Production (Tonnes)
1	2	3	4
1979-80	30.40	1979	2222
1980-81	31.60	1980	1965
1981-82	34.30	1981	1866
1982-83	35.80	1982	1872

1	2	3	4
1983-84	38.80	1983	1864
1984-85	41.50	1984	2105
1985-86	44.00	1985	2089
1986-87	46.10	1986	1940
1987-88	46.70	1987	1949
1988-89	48.40	1988	1774
1989-90	51.40	1989	2208
1990-91	53.90	1990	1408
1991-92	55.70	1991	1359
1992-93	58.00	1992	1520
1993-94 (P)	60.60	1993	1618
1994-95 (P)	64.00	1994	1324
		1995	1320

P — Provisional.

Production of Sugar

*100. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work pertaining to production of sugar in the sugarcane crushing year 1996-97 has been completed;

(b) if so, the total quantity of sugar produced till June, 1997 as compared to the production made in 1995-96;

(c) whether the Government have identified the reasons for the difference in the production of sugar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the estimated extent of loss to be incurred by the sugarcane producers of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The sugarcane crushing season starts from 1st October, and ends on 30th September. There are some sugar factories which are still under operation.

(b) The production of sugar during the current 1996-97 season (Upto 30th June) was 127.61 lakh tonnes as against 160.42 lakhs tonnes on the corresponding date during the 1995-96 season.

(c) and (d) The main reasons for lower production of sugar in the 1996-97 season, were:—

(i) marginal decrease in acreage under sugarcane;

(ii) significant shortfall in productivity of sugarcane particularly in Maharashtra;

(iii) late start of crushing, particularly in UP; and

(iv) diversion of sugarcane to khandsari and gur manufacture in the early part of the sugar season, particularly in UP.

The return to the sugarcane farmer depends on a variety of parameters, such as, productivity level of the sugarcane cultivated; price realisation, particularly in the khandsari and gur industry, where the price is not controlled; liquidity position of sugar mills and their corresponding capacity to make timely payments.

In view of the fact that the return to the farmer depends on various factors, it would not be relevant to relate the return to the aggregate production of sugar in a particular year.

[English]

Prices of Drugs

905. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal to slash the prices of some bulk drugs which are being sold at much higher prices than their notified rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?